

**DISTRIBUTED SCHEDULER FOR PACKET SWITCHES AND
PASSIVE OPTICAL NETWORKS**

ABSTRACT

Scheduling system and method for scheduling data packets from an input port
5 (1₁...1_i) to an output port (3₁...3_o), comprising virtual output queues (6₁...6_n)
being arranged to store data packets from the input port (1₁...1_i) destined for a
specific output port (3₁...3_o). The scheduling system comprises a scheduling tree
(10) having a plurality of comparison layers, each comparison layer being
arranged for pair-wise comparing requests received from the associated virtual
10 output queues (6₁...6_n) in parallel and
sending the request with a higher priority to a higher level comparison layer until
a single request remains, the single request indicating the virtual output queue
(6₁...6_n) scheduled to send its data packet to the associated output port (3₁...3_o).
6y

15 [Fig. 3]